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South Coast
AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
21865 E. Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4182 (909) 396-2000

May 4, 1993

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Mr. Carl Huie
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Engineering and Technology
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

ET. 93-59

Dear Mr Huie, Re: Notice of Inquiry FCC 93-136

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (District) has recently completed a 5-month field demonstration of the Radian/STI 915 Mhz radar wind profiler and radio acoustic sounding system (RASS) at Los Angeles International Airport. The profiler and RASS system, operating at the 915 Mhz frequency, accurately provided data characterizing the structure of the lower tropospheric winds and temperature over the coastal Los Angeles area. The reliability of the system, and its minimum requirements for continuous operation have made the 915 Mhz profiler and RASS an attractive, cost effective alternative to our current daily airsonde program. The District believes that the 915 Mhz wind profiler and RASS system will provide the data needed to accurately forecast daily air quality, and enhance the ability to model regional air pollution as a function of the development of our strategic plan to clean the air in the South Coast Air Basin. This will enable us to better address our federal mandate to clean the air in the Los Angeles area.

The District is evaluating the possibility of either purchasing or entering into a multiple year leasing agreement for one or more of these systems. The utility of these systems has been discussed with the California Air Resources Board and the local National Weather Service Forecast and Federal Aviation Administration offices. A potential network of these profilers could provide a shared data base that would enhance weather and aviation forecasting activities throughout Southern California. Consequently, the District strongly recommends that the Federal Communications Commission, (in reference to Notice of Inquiry FCC 93-136), allocate the 915 Mhz frequency to the wind and temperature profilers on a permanent basis.

We will be glad to share the results of our profiler demonstration project with you. Please contact Mr. Joseph Cassmassi, Senior Meteorologist at (909) 396-3155 if you have any questions regarding this matter. We look forward to your decision.

Sincerely,

Alan Lloyd

Alan C. Lloyd, Ph.D.
Chief Scientist

BRW:HH:JCC

cc: Donald Blumenthal, Ph.D.

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